



Peace to You & The Chimes

From the Pastor...

Is it Time for A Revival of A Time-Honored Church Tradition?

In the early days of American Methodism, when more than 80% of the population made their living in agriculture, the majority of our church members were farmers. Each autumn, once the harvest was in, Methodist farmers would tally their income for the season and then contribute a portion of the year's profits to help support their local church.

Out of this natural yearly rhythm grew the tradition of the Fall Stewardship Campaign which allowed everyone to celebrate the harvest and all of God's blessings by offering their contribution toward the expenses of the church. For generations this is how churches across the country kept their doors open and their ministries alive. After the Civil War, a national day of Thanksgiving was initiated by President Lincoln, in part to acknowledge this uniquely American way of life.

Today, in 2023, only 2% of Americans are still farming for a living and the annual stewardship campaign has fallen out of fashion and favor. In the meantime, the cost of running a church, just like everything else, has risen steadily. In 2022, the median budget for a United Methodist church with fewer than 200 people in weekly worship attendance was roughly \$170,000, while the average member contributed \$17.00 per week -- a figure that has not risen at nearly the same rate as church expenses for such necessities as insurance, utilities, and compensation for clergy and other staff. Well before disaffiliation or unification were being discussed at Peace and Trinity, expenses and contributions at both churches were following this same general pattern, so that even with conservative budgeting and wise investing the contributions from members and attenders have not aligned realistically with the fixed costs of operations for some time now.

It's interesting to note that even in this time of diminished church attendance, nearly everyone who belongs to a church believes that it is an important part of their life, and they want their church to thrive. They agree that the church serves a meaningful role in the life of the community. And yet, those beliefs do not necessarily translate to financial giving. A fair percentage of church members heartily object to open discussions of money and fundraising, even when both are upheld by the Scripture, tradition, and the sheer pragmatics of keeping the lights on and the church doors open.

Pastor Rachel's Message Continued....

This presents church leaders with a real catch-22. How do today's United Methodists approach this essential topic without ruffling the sensitive feathers of members who would prefer that matters of our personal and church finances remain a silent mystery?

One answer to this dilemma is to take a fresh and updated look at the time-honored tradition of the Fall Stewardship Campaign. Is there a way to reintroduce faith-based beliefs and routines held by our agricultural forebears so that contemporary church-goers can feel inspired and informed, without feeling manipulated or unduly pressured? Many, including yours truly, believe it's worth a try. The big question is, can we move beyond our initial feelings of resistance and discomfort long enough to reconnect with the spirits of those generous and faithful people who built and sustained our churches for years before us? Can we be intentional about discerning God's guidance for how to financially support our United Methodist ministries and missions, both for now, and for the future?

If you are willing to join in this exploration, please accept my gratitude, and then stay tuned for further information and instructions that will be shared between now and the end of November.

With gratitude and blessings to all.

Pastor Rachel



Hanging of the Greens will be December 2nd at 10:00 a.m. to noon. Please meet in the narthex to help decorate the church for advent and Christmastide.

Sunday School News



Barb Shannon
Education Chair
647-6522

Sunday School is up and running with six to eight children in attendance. This fall we are using *Wild Truth* by Mark Oestreicher based on wild Bible characters for the 4th-6th grades and a book by Max Lucado called ***GOD came Near - Chronicles of the Christ*** for our Jr. and Sr. High students.

Check out the bulletin board in the main hallway and get better acquainted with the students by reading their personal information on their disciple shields.

Allison Ewing and Stephanie Perkins have graciously volunteered to head up our Christmas Program this year. A December date will be announced later.

On Saturday, December 2nd, we will be making ornaments for the Sunday School tree. We will meet in the room behind the balcony at 10:00 a.m. Snacks will be provided. This will coincide with Hanging of the Greens.

Our Christmas Program will be during our worship service on Sunday, December 10th. Please mark it on your calendar.

Come join the fun.

Barb Shannon
Sunday School Superintendent

Mission Focus and Special Sundays 2023



The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) is a non-profit charity that provides a lifetime of support for veterans of all generations and their families, helping more than 1 million veterans in positive, life-changing ways each year. The DAV was created in 1920 by WWI vets for disabled military veterans. It was issued a federal charter in 1932 and currently has over 1 million members.

The DAV operates a fleet of vehicles around the country to provide free transportation to VA medical facilities for injured and ill veterans. The DAV stepped in to help vets get the care they need when the federal government terminated its program that helped many of them pay for transportation to and from medical facilities. The vans are driven by volunteers, and the rides are coordinated by more than 156 Hospital Service Coordinators around the country.

Since the program's inception in 1987, DAV departments and chapters have donated 3,665 vehicles and Ford Motor company has donated 256 vehicles at a cost of more than \$92 million dollars.

A DAV van is housed here in Richland County that takes our local veterans to the VA facility in Madison. The money we collect will be used locally to help local vets get to and from their medical appointments using the DAV van pictured above. There are several local volunteer drivers here in Richland County. THANKS for your support of our veterans who have served with great honor and dignity. We owe them our deepest gratitude.

MONTHLY MISSION FOCUS FOR 2023	
<i>Special Sundays in Italics</i>	
November	VETERANS PROJECT: The DAV Van <i>UM Student Day</i> <i>November 26th #1055</i>
December	SALVATION ARMY



What Is United Methodist Student Day? - November 26, 2023

United Methodist Student Day was originally Special Sunday founded by United Methodist Church Sunday schools who collected offerings to help advance education for their children. The fund was originally established in 1872 as the Children's Fund. Today, United Methodist Student Day Sunday has the same purpose, calling upon the denomination to support their students as they prepare for life by adding knowledge to their faith.

Every year, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry awards an average of \$5.5 million in financial aid to United Methodist students. The offering taken on United Methodist Student Day is one opportunity to support these scholarships. Every dollar – yes 100% – received goes towards supporting and educating a new generation of principled Christian leaders for the church and the world. Supporting this Special Sunday is truly an investment in our future.

Currently, there are over 70 scholarships available for undergraduate, graduate, or doctoral United Methodist students. Financial support for all General Board of Higher Education and Ministry scholarships come from five primary sources: 63% from endowments; 22% from wills and annuities; 13% from United Methodist Special Sundays and 1% from online gifts and fiduciary income. All donations received empower and encourage our students that we are investing in them and our future.

We are blessed to support thousands of students through scholarships, but we would like to do more. Our funds are limited, and every awards cycle we end up with a large pool of qualified candidates who we are unable to help because there was no money left to give. You can help us change that! Donate now and help more students answer God's call to higher education.

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY

TOGETHER
OUR REACH IS BEYOND MEASURE

The United Methodist Church's special giving structure ensures your generosity blesses as many people as possible in sustainable, strategic ways

YOUR DONATION CHANGES THE WORLD ONE LIFE AT A TIME

GIVE TO YOUR CHURCH:
Make checks payable to your local church or donate online via credit/debit card at ResourceUMC.org/SSGive

TO GIVE ONLINE SCAN QR CODE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE CAMERA

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church™



Gifts to the United Methodist Student Day offering help deserving United Methodist college, university, and graduate students continue their education and their faith journeys as they strive to make a difference in the world and discern what God has called them to do.

The funds received from the offering **Advance #1055**, go in the Student Loan Fund to underwrite scholarships for United Methodist students.

By asking you to support Trinity Missions' Projects, we also ask that you first consider your support of the general fund, which is what keeps our church doors open. Then please prayerfully consider your support of this month's Mission Focus. Thank you.

United Methodist Foundation News

Don't Keep Silent

I started preaching when I was just 18 years old. I was invited by my home pastor to preach, despite my age, because he knew I had a call to the ordained ministry. By the time I was 20, I had preached a whopping three sermons. With my call and this vast amount of experience behind me, I was invited to serve a small, rural congregation in Southeastern Wisconsin as their supply pastor — which basically meant I would visit the members in their homes and preach every Sunday. And so, in November of my junior year of college, I began to preach every Sunday for a congregation of 52 people. As I remember my first year there, I have fond memories of a group of faithful people who had to listen to, probably the worst sermons ever given.

Despite my inexperience, the congregation was very supportive — often offering a tip or an encouraging word. Particularly, I remember one gentleman who came up to me to give me a pat on the back one Sunday morning. After a particularly difficult sermon he said that he truly enjoyed my messages. A little surprised, I responded by simply saying, “Really?” He continued by saying, “Oh yes. You know, you stand up every Sunday and try to tell us about God’s love and grace. But what I really like is the fact that, in the whole year you’ve been preaching, you’ve never mentioned money once.”

Considering that comment, I suppose it could be seen as a bit ironic that my ministry as a part of the Foundation is helping congregations and pastors learn how to comfortably talk about money in relation to our faith (maybe even excitedly). What I’ve discovered, however, is that talking about stewardship is about focusing love and grace. It is about helping people realize all the ways we are blessed by God, that God has given to us abundantly. God has given us so much, in fact, that we have enough to give generously in love for others.

I encourage you to speak about stewardship boldly. Talk about how you have experienced God’s love, grace, and abundance. Share how generosity has transformed your life. Talk about the blessings others have experienced in your church that are made possible by your community’s generosity.

*Rev. Jason Mahnke,
Director of Programming & Campaigns*

For more information:

Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation

Either call 1-608-837-9582 or

Email Jason at jmahnke@wumf.org

Special Offerings Coming Up

It’s time to start thinking about offering holiday hope to those in need. Please start watching your mail box for the first of this year’s two Special Holiday Offering letters. Our Special Thanksgiving offering will go to both Lydia’s House and A Child’s Place. After that, expect your second letter regarding our Christmas offering to arrive in early December. That one has been earmarked for Passages and the Free Clinic.

Memorial Ministry Corner



November Memorial Ministry Corner



In Memory of Eleanor Louise (Boomhower) Lane
December 29, 1923 – September 22, 2023

Eleanor's daughter (Pat Leonard) was Trinity's long-time Administrative Assistant.

Complete Obituary Appears at the *Clary Memorial Funeral Home – Cremation & Monument Services, Richland Center, WI*, Website: <https://tinyurl.com/ycx62k2r>

Visitation/Services were held on Friday, October 06, 2023, at the Schmitt Woodland Hills Health Center - Family Room # 02, Richland Center.

Cards of condolence may be sent to Eleanor's daughter & family at the following:

Pat Leonard
1701 Woodland Circle
Apartment No. 110
Richland Center, WI 53581
720.774.0872

In Memory of Roger John Weber
July 07, 1962 – September 24, 2023

Roger's father (Jim Weber) has been a longtime "Constituent" Member of Trinity UMC.

Complete Obituary Appears at the *Stafford Funeral Homes Website, Richland Center, WI*:
<https://tinyurl.com/3kwd6r6m>.

Visitation/Services were held on Wednesday, September 27, & Thursday, September 28, 2023, at Saint Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church, Richland Center, WI.

Cards of condolence may be sent to Roger's father & family at the following:

Jim Weber & Nan Nelson
1139 West Seminary Street
Richland Center, WI 53581
608.647.2813

Memorial Ministry *continued...*

In Memory of Shannon P. Trebus
February 11, 1935 – September 29, 2023

Shannon has been a devoted Trinity UMC Professing Member since April 03, 1966.

Complete Obituary Appears at the *Stafford Funeral Homes, Richland Center, WI*, Website:
<https://tinyurl.com/pkhfcfha>

Visitation & services were held on Saturday, October 07, 2023, at Trinity United Methodist Church, Richland Center, with Pastor Rachel K. Olson officiating.

Cards of condolence may be sent to Shannon's daughter & son-in-law at the following:

John R. & Gwen (Trebus) Bennett
2941 Muir Field Road
Madison, WI 53719
608.445.0517 (or) gwenymb@att.net



**"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."
(Matthew 5:4)**

All Saints' Day 2023

Sunday, November 05, 2023, is Trinity's All Saints' Day. Our service will begin at 9:30 a.m. followed by a special coffee hour sponsored by Trinity's Memorial Ministry team. In addition to our five Trinity saints & Peace UMC saints being recognized from 2023, we will also be consecrating/dedicating an extensive list of memorial & honor gifts. Our five saints, representing a combined 115 years, 9 months of Trinity membership, are as follows:

- ◆ Steven Michael Bethke [February 15, 1980 – June 03, 2023]
- ◆ Robert (Bob) F. Kesting [June 02, 1950 – July 13, 2023]
- ◆ Margie E. (Orsburn) Tanner [September 04, 1929 – August 05, 2023]
- ◆ Harriet Reese [March 06, 1922 – September 09, 2023]
- ◆ Shannon P. Trebus [February 11, 1935 – September 29, 2023]
- ◆ Lynette Schwichtenberg (January 10, 1941 – October 19, 2023)
- ◆ Doris Kanable; Lorraine Ewing; Dwight Fruit (Peace UMC)

*"For all the saints who from their labors rest, who Thee by faith before the world confessed;
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!"*
- - William Walsham How (1864)

Memorial Ministry *continued from page 7*

Trinity UMC Scholarship 2024

Hard to believe that it is time to look ahead to our 2024 Trinity scholarship. **The application period for our scholarship will be Friday, December 01, 2023, through Sunday, March 31, 2024.** Paper or electronic copies of our scholarship will be available starting Sunday, November 26, 2023, and can be obtained from the literature table in the narthex, contacting the *church office*, or contacting *Memorial Ministry Chair Paul Murphey* at 269 South Park Street, Richland Center, WI, 53581-2303 (or) 608.647.6439 (or) pmurphey@mwt.net.

In addition to honor gifts from our members & friends, our scholarship is partially funded in memory of **Marilyn Joan Anderson; Wayne Braithwaite; Jerry Cooper; Alberta Chellevold-Couey; Marilyn Rose Creasey, Nancy Edwards; Hilda Heidenreich; Eloise Herbeck; Dean, Kirk, & Roger Jewell; James & Lucille Johnston; Ralph & Helen Monteith; Ruth Moser; Ileen Shannon; Eleanor Strang; and Julia “Jane” Taylor; and special honor gifts from Cheryl M. Stanley & Trinity UMC members & friends.**

To date, our current scholarship fund balance, invested at Capital Wealth Advisory Group (Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC), is **\$13,907.49**.

Memorial Ministry Received the Following Thank You

Dear Trinity Members & Friends,

Thank you all so very much for the beautiful card that was signed by everyone and kind comments, too! Your kindness brought us great comfort and will always be remembered.

From Eleanor Lane’s family (Pat Leonard & Joanne & Bruce Taylor)

Congratulations, King Teige Perkins & Queen Clara Shannon!



Our Trinity congratulations to two of our members who were selected by their high school peers as the king & queen for this year’s RCCHS homecoming weekend on September 29, 2023. Both **King Teige Perkins** (son of Brian & Stephanie Perkins) & **Queen Clara Shannon** (daughter of Chris & Destiny Shannon) are seniors at RCCHS and will be graduating on Sunday, June 02, 2024. *May God bless you on this special occasion! Congratulations and best wishes to you both.*



Making Our Sanctuary More Accessible for All

A pew reconstruction project will be happening at Trinity UM Church in early November. Four pews (2 in a row on each side) will be shortened by 34 inches from the center aisle. This is the approximate width of 2 wheelchairs and will allow a wheelchair user the necessary space to navigate. It will also allow those who use a walker to have room to store their walker next to them. The end of the pew will be removed, the pew shortened, and the end put back in place. The hymnal rack will be moved to butt up against the center support, and the Communion cup rack will be placed on the other side of the center support. The floor will be repaired and the pew pads will be shortened. This project is being done in memory of Steve Bethke and the money will come from The Memorial Ministry funds. The work is scheduled to be done November 6-10. The Bethke family is excited about making our sanctuary more accessible for all people and are grateful for the generous gifts that are making this project possible.

Give Thanks

For the hay and the corn and the wheat that is reaped,
For the labor well done, and the barns that are heaped,
For the sun and the dew and the sweet honeycomb,
For the rose and the song and the harvest brought home –
Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving!

For the trade and the skill and the wealth in our land,
For the cunning and strength of the working man's hand,
For the good that our artists and poets have taught,
For the friendship that hope and affection have brought –
Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving!

For the homes that with purest affection are blest,
For the season of plenty and well-deserved rest,
For our country extending from sea unto sea,
The land that is known as the "Land of the Free" –
Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving!



**Daylight savings time ends
November 5th**



Celebrations and More



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



November Birthdays

Clara Shannon	11/4
Declan Bee	11/6
Laurie Stephens-Vance	11/10
Kathy Cianci	11/14
Julianna Shannon	11/15
Frances R. Cooper	11/18
Monica Eernisse	11/18
Kurt Monson	11/18
Joan Wheeler	11/22
Sandy Brice	11/23
Kynli Ludwig	11/23
Patty Hill	11/24
Corrina Mott	11/25
Jarred Schenider	11/27
Lucas Turgasen	11/27

November Birthdays

Gavin Gochenaur	11/2
Tyler Woodman	11/4
Claudia Berres	11/11
Mark Dunn	11/12
Landen Moore	11/15
Joan Wheeler	11/22
Laverne Gulsrud	11/29
Cheryl Winger	11/30

November Anniversaries

Mark & Connie Dunn	11/15
Terry & Barb Nimocks	11/27

Scripture Readers

Peace

11-05	Jim Brock
11-12	Paul Knower
11-19	Katherine Hall
11-26	Juliette Hall

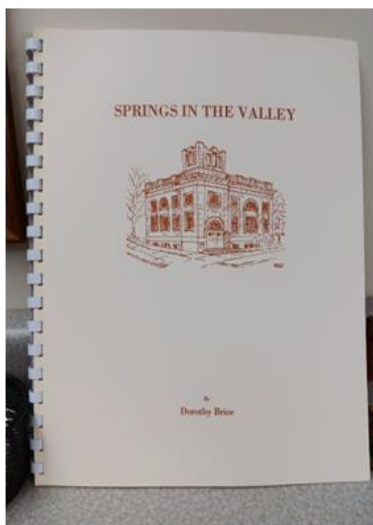
A Very Thankful Note of Thanks

Dear Peace and Trinity Friends,

I wanted to say thank you to you all for the lovely, warm and generous Pastor Appreciation gifts I have received.

Please know that your Pastor feels fully appreciated and deeply grateful.

Blessings to all!
Pastor Rachel



“**Springs of the Valley**” by Dorothy Brice are available at Peace. They can be found on the counter in Peace Plaza or on the table in the North Room by the steps. Please take a copy if you wish. We have plenty of her books in our History Room.

Dorothy and her husband, Rev. Kenneth Brice, served at Peace for 12 years before they retired in Richland Center.

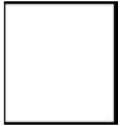
Dorothy loved to write and paint. Peace was her home and she loved it here. Rev. Brice was a mentor to several pastor’s who served Peace as well as helping with various special services until his tragic death in 2002.



NOVEMBER MINISTRY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 Hanging of the Greens will be December 2nd at 10:00 a.m. to noon. Please meet in the narthex to help decorate the church for advent and Christmastide.			1 Dance Class: 4:00 p.m. Trinity	2 Al Anon: Noon Peace	3 The office is closed	4 Church Women United: World Community Day 9:00 a.m. Willow Valley UMC
	5 Daylight Saving Time Ends 9:30 a.m. Worship/ Trinity 10:45 a.m. Worship/ Peace	6 PEO: 1:00 p.m. Trinity Library	7 Election Day Women's Bible Study: 10:00 a.m. Trinity Missions Mtg: 4:30 p.m. Library	8 Dance Class: 4:00 p.m. Trinity	9 RAREA Mtg: 10:00 Trinity Library Al Anon: Noon Peace	10 The office is closed
12 9:30 a.m. Worship/ Trinity 10:45 a.m. Worship/ Peace	13 Trustee Mtg: 4:00 p.m. Library	14 Women's Bible Study: 10:00 a.m. Trinity Ministry Membership 1:00 p.m. Trinity	15 Newsletter deadline: Noon Dance Class: 4:00 p.m. Trinity	16 Al Anon: Noon Peace	17 The office is closed	18
19 9:30 a.m. Worship/ Trinity 10:45 a.m. Worship/ Peace	20 Ad Council Mtg: 4:00 p.m. Trinity	21 Women's Bible Study: 10:00 a.m. Trinity	22 Dance Class: 4:00 p.m. Trinity Ad Council Mtg: 6:00 p.m. Peace	23 Thanksgiving Day The office is closed 	24 The office is closed	25
26 9:30 a.m. Worship/ Trinity 10:45 a.m. Worship/ Peace	27	28 Women's Bible Study: 10:00 a.m. Trinity	29 Dance Class: 4:00 p.m. Trinity	30 Al Anon: Noon Peace		

Trinity United Methodist Church
400 East Seminary Street
Richland Center, WI 53581



Peace United Methodist Church

Pastor Rachel K. Olson
265 North Church Street
Richland Center, WI 53581
Pastor's Cell: 608-373-4027
Pastor's E-mail: rkolson123@gmail.com

Peace Church Office

Hours: Monday-Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Peace UMC Office: 608-647-4559
Peace E-mail: peaceumc.rc@gmail.com
Website: www.umchurchrc.org or
www.peace.churchumc.org

Office Manager: Joan Wheeler
Treasurer: Victor Vlasak

Trinity United Methodist Church

Pastor: Rachel K. Olson
400 E. Seminary St
Richland Center, WI 5581
Pastor's Cell Phone: 608-373-4027
Pastor's email: rkolson123@gmail.com

Trinity Church Office

Hours: Monday through Thursday
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Trinity UMC Office: (608) 647-3203
Trinity's email: trinityumc@mwt.net
Websites: www.umchurchrc.org or
www.trinity.umchurchrc.org

Administrative Assistant: Joan Wheeler
Treasurer/Financial Secretary: Monica Eernisse
Custodian: Bill Twining